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## "God Has Given Us Everything We Need"

Sample Small Group Questions  
<https://bit.ly/GroupDiscussionQuestions>The Overtime Podcast  
[bit.ly/ROvertime](https://bit.ly/ROvertime)Series Resources  
[bit.ly/RLcurrentseries](https://bit.ly/RLcurrentseries)

### 1. What is a promise?

- a. Often its words ["I will..." or "I won't..."] that are fixed - unchanging - that tell someone else what you will or won't do.
- b. **A Promise Includes:**
  - i. A source: The promise is as reliable as the promise maker
  - ii. A recipient: Not for everyone [Ex: marriage vows]
  - iii. A message: Conditions, future events, rewards, etc.

### 2. God has Given Us Everything We Need

- a. **Background:** Peter is about to die and he writes to correct the false teaching that is contradicting Jesus's promises (His return) and leading people astray.

2 Peter 1:3-4 (NIV) "His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, **so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires**" (emphasis mine throughout).

- b. First step: **Plant the promises of God in your soul!**
- c. Second step: **Act on them...**they do you no good to just know them.

2 Peter 1:5-7 (NIV) "For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love."

- d. These 7 traits describe how we "participate in the divine nature".

2 Peter 1:8-9 (NIV) "For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins."

- e. Standing on God's promises leads to a life of godliness that keeps us from being ineffective and unproductive in our knowledge of Jesus.

### 3. How do promises work to change our lives?

- a. Believing the world's promises produces visible sin in our life [crab grass].
  - i. Greenery above the surface (Visible sin)
  - ii. Roots below the surface (doubts, fears, evil desires)
    1. These often stem from false beliefs about God or myself.
- b. Ways to remove crab grass in your soul?
  - i. **What doesn't work:** Pick the greenery (Aim to stop the symptoms)
  - ii. **What works:** Remove the root system (Replace false beliefs I have about God or myself with God's truth)
  - iii. Crowd out new crab grass seedlings (Plant the promises and act on them!)

### 4. What Happens When I Don't Believe that I Have Everything I Need?

- a. I take situations into my own hands.

- i. For what situation do you need to plant this promise in your soul so that you don't take it into your own hands?
- b. I give in to fear and anxiety and refuse to step out in faith.
  - i. For what situation do you need to plant this promise in your soul so that you don't sin by not obeying God's call for your life?
- c. I blame others or the situation for my sin.
  - i. For what situation do you need to plant this promise in your soul so that you don't blame others for your own sin?

**5. What Do You Do When You Feel Like You Don't Have Everything You Need?**

**a. Ask**

James 4:2-3 (NIV) " You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

**b. Lament**

"A lament is a prayer in pain that leads to trust. Laments are more than merely the expression of sorrow. The goal of Biblical lament is to recommit oneself to hoping in God and believing God's promises" (Belmont).

**c. Keep banking on the miraculous - God is keeping His promise.**

**6. Conclusion:**

- a. What promises do you need to plant in your soul?

**Small Group Discussion Questions:** "The Promise Keeper: God Has Given Us Everything We Need"

**Icebreaker:** If you could ask God one thing right now about His promises, what would it be?

**Main Passage:** Read 2 Peter 1:1-11 together before beginning.

1. How does believing God's promises enable us to live godly lives?
2. How do you think living according to God's promises (vv. 5-7) keeps you "from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 8).
3. Are you currently struggling to believe that God has truly given you everything you need?
  - a. Follow-up: What would standing on this promise look like in your life?
4. How do you respond when faced with challenges that make you question whether God's promises are enough?
5. How can you actively plant God's promises in your soul this week to overcome an area of sin or doubt?
6. Is there a situation in your life where you've been trying to take matters into your own hands instead of trusting God's promises? How can you step back and trust God in that area?
7. How can you encourage someone else in your life to stand on the promises of God during a time of hardship or struggle?